

**Seattle Chapter Meeting
Wednesday, December 16**

**Rainier Golf & Country Club
11133 Des Moines Memorial Drive South
Seattle, WA 98168
(206) 242-4460**

Dress code requirement: no jeans, please

**5:30 – 6:30 Social Hour & Networking
6:30 – 7:30 Dinner & Announcements
7:30 – 8:30 Speaker**

Menu:

Entrée: Chicken Breast filled with Mousse,
Pistachios & Fresh Herb Blanc

Dessert: Chocolate Mousse

Vegetarian Option: Grilled Vegetables in a Portabello
Mushroom

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|-------------------------|---------|
| Members/Faculty | \$27.00 |
| Standing Res | \$26.00 |
| Guests | \$29.00 |
| Students Members | \$19.00 |
| Student Guests | \$21.00 |
| Coffee Only | \$ 5.00 |

Reservation/Cancellation Policies

Three options:

Use the on-line form

Call Arrangements Chair 206-467-8645

Send email to reservations@aswaseattle.org

Reservations deadline:

5 pm, Thursday, December 10

Cancellations deadline:

Noon, Monday, December 14

**No-shows and late cancellations will be billed.
Walk-ins are welcome but with no meal avail-
ability guarantee.**

December 16, 2009

Dinner Speaker

1 Hour CPE

Speaker: Gary Smith, Executive Director,
Independent Business Association (IBA) of
Washington State

Topic: 2009 Washington State Legislative
Update

Gary Smith will present information
on Washington State legislative is-
sues. His presentation will include
the state's budget situation and
the economy, new state tax laws
that have or are taking effect, ma-
jor issues expected in the 2010
legislative session, health care,
and labor relations.

Bio: Gary Smith is the Executive
Director of Independent Business
Association (IBA) of Washington
State. IBA is one of the largest
state-based small business organi-
zations in the nation. Gary has
advocated successfully on behalf of
small businesses on major policies
and issues in Washington State and
nationally for 35 years.

**Annual Joint Meeting with
Bellevue Chapter**

The December dinner meeting will be our an-
nual joint meeting with the Bellevue Chapter.
We look forward to hosting our Bellevue Chapter
friends at our normal dinner meeting location.



President’s Message

Happy Holidays! ASWA Seattle has many great activities for the month of December. This includes our holiday social event, Sister’s Christmas Catechism, our charity event, donations to Noel House, and our joint meeting with Bellevue chapter. ‘Tis the season for participating in ASWA!

This month marks six months into my term as President. We have had a great year so far thanks to our dedicated volunteers. Some of our successes so far have been a great Dessert Auction with about fifteen thousand dollars raised for scholarships, a successful charity drive for Ryther Child Center, and great dinner events with some excellent CPE. In addition, we have had seven new members join our chapter.

In the upcoming year we look forward to awarding our Becker CPA scholarship, our 2nd Annual “New Member Tea” and all of the great dinner meetings and social events to come.

I wish you and your families the best during the holiday season and I look forward to our continued success in the New Year.

Jo Smitchger

Calendar of Events

2009:

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|-------------|--|
| December 2 | December Board Meeting |
| December 6 | Holiday Social Event – Sister’s Christmas Catechism at ACT Theater |
| December 11 | ASWA/Seattle University Annual Fall Tax Seminar 8 hours quality tax CPE – Contact: Jan Augustin, Co-Chair |
| December 16 | December Dinner Meeting - Joint with Bellevue Chapter hosted by Seattle Chapter See Page 1 for details |

2010:

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|-------------|--|
| January 13 | January Board Meeting |
| January 23 | New Member Tea – see more details below |
| January 27 | January Dinner Meeting Topic: Federal Income Tax Update with Christina A. Polf, CPA |
| February 10 | February Board Meeting |
| February 24 | February Dinner Meeting – Student Night Topic: “Looking Good When it Counts” – Sue Danbom, Volt Workforce Solutions |
| March 10 | March Board Meeting |
| March 24 | March Dinner Meeting Topic: Chuck Johnston, LinkedCPA, Accounting in the Tech Age |
| April 7 | April Board Meeting |
| April 28 | April Dinner Meeting Topic: Sharron O’Donnell, CPA, Internal Controls in Downsized Environment |
| May 12 | May Board Meeting |
| May 26 | May Dinner Meeting Topic: Deborah Asavarahapun, Hiring & Overseeing Bookkeepers |
| June 9 | June Board Meeting |
| June 18-19 | NW Area Conference - “Stop and Count the Roses” Portland Crowne Plaza – Portland Convention Center |
| June 23 | June Dinner Meeting |



Sweet and Generous!

Those are two adjectives which describe both the donors and the items for sale at the recent and fabulous (!) ASWA-Seattle 16th Annual Scholarship Dessert Auction (SDA), held on Oct 28th, 2009 at the Rainier Golf and Country Club (RG&CC). This was our second SDA event at the RG&CC, and what a fine venue that has been for us. We had a larger than usual attendance for the event this year (72), ranging from the youngest and arguably cutest attendee – Elizabeth Grace (14 months) to Well, more seasoned SDA veterans! The location is beautifully appointed to begin with, but the atmosphere is remarkably sweetened and improved with the aroma and appearance of dozens of cookies, cakes, pies, cupcakes, candies and fudge, preserves, and lovely sewn items, and the always impressive productions offered at the LIVE auction. This year was exceptional. Or perhaps it is merely because the images remain so vivid? We had fruit tart from The Pastry Cafe, pumpkin cheesecake and those heavenly, decadent cakes from The Queen Mary Tea Room and Grazie Ristorante! Not surprisingly, everything tasted as good as it looked -- and that's saying something!

There are still some matching funds and donations trickling in, but it looks as though we will be very close to \$15,000, net of our fundraising expenses. How incredible is that?! Very!

The evening was full of superlatives, and new “highs” attained – highest single LIVE item (Chocolate Framboise Cake from the Queen Mary Tea Room, \$1,400); highest single Silent item (date bars, \$350 twice-over to a pair of dueling bidders!); highest Silent Auction table (\$1,694); highest Silent Auction overall at \$3,168; and highest LIVE Auction overall at \$5,750.

Three of our scholarship recipients were in attendance; Ashley Borek and Melissa Cheesman shared a few words about the progress they are making toward their degrees.

Thank you so much to all who donated their time, effort and dollars to bring this evening to fruition – it is no simple undertaking. Carol Bacon, for her creative flair, both clever with a computer AND a wizard in the kitchen; Amy Harris and Kim Wilson, for orchestrating the Silent Auction set-up (whew! Those two are organized!); Laura Dodson, for posting-up the event on LinkedIn; Patricia Angell and Jocelyn Cunningham for picking-up and delivering the LIVE Auction items.

Several members sponsored items, which allowed donors' contributions to go directly to our Scholarship Programs: Mary Fisher; Lia Gredzens; Mary Ann Hardy; Carrie Noess; Sharron O'Donnell; Kathy Clark; and Patricia Angell.

Huge thanks go to the Baker/Donors – both members and friends of the Society: Carol Eisenhauer; Jan Augustin; Carol Bacon; Rachel Petrich; Amy Harris; Laura Dodson; Linda Landerdahl; Elisabeth Edelen; Meridith Fishkin; Carrie Noess; Diane Cunningham; Jenny Willison; Rhonda O'Leary; Susan Goegebuer; Jo Smitchger; Linda Burrus; Noreen Florio and Lindsey Nagel; Mary Foster; Janet Stebins; Melissa Cheesman; Tina Polf; Sharon Lee; Tom Widmark; and Mitchell VandenBerg. Forgive me if I have omitted anyone.

Marilyn Wilt and Kim Wilson delivered the goods and worked-the-room as our “cake models” – Vanna White never had such a sweet assignment. Thank you, ladies!

And finally, and most important, is the generosity of all those who contributed before, during and after the event in support of our ASWA-Seattle Scholarship and Endowment Funds. Your generosity allows us to continue these programs in furtherance of the mission of ASWA. On behalf of the past, present and future scholarship recipients, thank you! We are most grateful for the opportunity you provide for these accounting students to complete their education and become members of our profession, and possibly our Society. Thank you!

- Liz Pray

Community Service Committee News

Donations for a Women's Shelter for the Holidays

The Community Service Committee (Rhonda O'Leary, Noreen Florio and Kim Wilson) will be collecting donations at the December 16th Dinner meeting. Below is more information about Noel House and the items they are requesting. They are simple requests and basic day-to-day items that will go far to help homeless women during the holidays. All donations will be delivered to Noel House before their holiday party on December 22nd. For more information contact communityservice@aswaseattle.org.



NOEL HOUSE PROGRAMS

Shelter, safety, dignity and
compassion for women

Noel House Programs provides safe and comfortable shelter for a diverse community of homeless women, particularly those most vulnerable. The main Noel House shelter provides hot meals and a safe place to sleep to 40 women on any given night. Join us in creating a compassionate community that provides essential services to women experiencing homelessness.

Wish List for the Holidays

\$5 - \$10 gift cards to local drug stores or food places

(Bartells, Walgreens, Rite Aid, McDonalds, Starbucks, Tullys, etc.)

Top Ten List of Donation Needs

1. Over-the-counter cold remedies and cough drops
2. Deodorant and feminine hygiene supplies
3. Toothbrushes and toothpaste
4. Ground coffee, hot cocoa mix and tang
5. Non-dairy creamer, sugar and powdered milk
6. Bleach, laundry detergent, dish soap, etc.
7. All sizes of bras and under garments (including size 18+)
8. Combs, brushes, cosmetics
9. Towels and washcloths
10. Blankets, pillows and single bed sheets

Collecting for Dress for Success at January Dinner Meeting

At the January 27 dinner meeting, we will be collecting donations for Dress for Success. They are in need of accessories including purses, belts, scarves, jewelry, etc. Great chance to clean out those closets and dresser drawers!



You're Invited: New Member Tea **January 23, 2010**

All of our new members and not-so-new members are invited to attend our second annual New Member Tea to be held at 11:00 am, January 23, 2009 at the Olympic View Community Church in North Seattle. The address for the Olympic View Community Church is 425 NE 95th St., Seattle, WA 98115.

Come enjoy delicious tea, fabulous desserts and great company. Bring your favorite sweet or savory treat. For more info, contact tea@aswaseattle.org or Jo at 206-399-2463. Hope to see you there.

Welcome New Members & November Anniversaries

Welcome to the following new member:

Jennifer Wright

The following members had their ASWA anniversaries in November:

Linda Landerdahl

Roberta Hyman

Janet Stebbins

Mary Fisher

The Last Word:

The Journey

Here are some thoughts about your journey:

When just starting out on a new journey, it's only natural to feel vulnerable. After all, it may seem that you have much to lose. But may I remind you that never again, at any other point in the same journey, will you have so much to gain.

But be gentle with yourself; show yourself the same kindness and patience you might show a young child - the child you once were. If you won't be your own friend, who will be? If, when playing an opponent, you are also opposing yourself, you will be outnumbered.

If there are a hundred steps in your path to success and you have not reached it in ninety-nine of them, do not conclude that your journey is a failure. Press on and up. The prizes are generally at the end of an effort, not at its beginning...and not to go on is to miss them. Be valiant... have faith in yourself. Success belongs only to those who dare to win it.

Here is my way..... Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside in a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming "Wow! What a Ride!"

Thanks for coming, Be Safe and have a terrific evening.

Karen Buchholz



Announcements

Becker Scholarship Available: Becker CPA has awarded the Seattle Chapter a scholarship this year for the Becker CPA Review Course. The scholarship will cover all the materials and registration fees, including flashcards. The current standard price through ASWA is \$2,640 (\$250 off for ASWA members). If you are a member and would like to apply for this scholarship, please email president@aswaseattle.org. Please include when you are eligible to take the CPA exam and why you would like the scholarship. The deadline for applying is January 31, 2010.

Next *Journal* Deadline: Friday, January 8, 2010. The Seattle Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants, to serve its members' interests, publishes the *Journal* monthly. If you have news, seminars, community meetings, committee meetings or an article you would like published, attach the file (*preferably in Word™, single spaced with no tables, boxes or irregular formatting*) and send to **Mary Fisher** at journal@aswaseattle.org.

Employment Opportunities Newsletter will be posted after the dinner meeting to the Members Only section of the web site. You will need your 5-digit ASWA member ID number to log in. Send email to update@aswaseattle.org if you can't find your member number.

ASWA LinkedIn Group. Please visit our [LinkedIn page](#) and join our group to network with other ASWA members. This is a great way to get connected – and stay connected. We now have over 525 members in ASWA's LinkedIn group and several have started discussion strings. If you've not already done so, please consider becoming a member and participating in the discussions. There are new ones almost every day.

ASWA Mission Statement

The mission of the American Society of Women Accountants is to enable women in all accounting and related fields to achieve their full personal, professional, and economic potential and to contribute to the future development of their profession.

ASWA Claim Statement

For women who seek advancement in the accounting profession, ASWA is a professional membership organization that provides the leadership skills required for success. ASWA provides experienced mentors and a supportive, non-threatening environment to practice business management and establish a professional reputation among peers.